

**KFTL-CA
San Francisco, CA
Quarterly Issues/Programs List
January - March 2007**

January 6, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 - 11:00 PM

Delta waterways ecology and environmental health

Interviewed representatives of San Francisco Bay & Delta Keepers, an organization that monitors water conditions throughout the Delta for environmental problems. Toured waterway areas and discussed the problems of waste water disposal, industrial toxic waste, and other types of contaminants. They lobby for legislation that will help the Bay & Delta waters stay healthy and enhance the ecology. They also test the water on a regular basis for all different types of chemicals and biological elements that could be hazardous in too high of concentrations. The organization has many volunteers that use their own boats to help "patrol" the Bay & Delta waterways, watching and looking for sources of environmental contamination or problems. Also discussed the continuing problem of levee erosion and what effect that has on the Bay & Delta ecology.

January 13, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 - 11:00 PM

California history education

Visited the California Trail Days that is held each year at Donner Memorial Park. Many people volunteer to participate recreating the pioneer lifestyle of the Donner Party and emigrants of that era. Toured the different areas set up like a pioneer camp, and talked with participants about the different things pioneers did in their daily life. Showed demonstrations on weaving, mountain man living, how women in the 1800's dressed, the different kinds of wagons the emigrants used and toured a pioneer camp general store. Also included comments from descendants of pioneers who told the stories of what their ancestors went through emigrating to California in the mid 1800's.

January 20, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 - 11:00 PM

Animal Rescue services

Visited Rattie Ratz Rescue that works with the Bay Area SPCA in handling unwanted pet rats, as the SPCA is not equipped to take in these kinds of animals. Many times the problem arises of people getting a pet rat from a retail pet store that is already pregnant, as many of these retail stores are not careful to keep the male and females separated, and rats can mate and become pregnant at a very early age. Rattie Ratz not only provides a rescue service for adoption placement of these animals, but also educates people on the care of pet rats, and the need to make sure one is getting a pet that is not already pregnant and healthy. Because of the problems encountered in buying pet rats from retail stores, they do not recommend it, but to rather adopt a pet or get one from an established breeder. Also covered the care of pet rats, cages, food, toys, handling, etc., and the misconceptions about having rats as pets, that they have been domesticated for over 100 years and are not at all related to a wild rat. They make good pets for people who don't have a lot of space, for kids to learn about the responsibility of caring for a pet, and for the elderly, as they are inexpensive, easy to care for, and very responsive in playing and human interaction.

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January 27, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 - 11:00 PM

Boating safety

Went on patrol with members of the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Boating Detail in the Delta. Some of the problems they encounter are high speed boating in restricted areas, problems with party areas and places where personal watercraft tend to be a higher risk to other nearby boats. Discussed the increased use of personal watercraft and showed an example of a minor head injury caused when the watercraft flipped over and the rider's head was hit. Many people use these without any training at all, and also don't wear helmets. Riders many times don't watch for other boats in their path, resulting in a high rate of collisions. Also covered the problem of drinking and operating a boat, showing areas of potential danger if the channel signal system operated by the Coast Guard is not understood, especially during low visibility or at night, as there are many large ships using shipping lanes throughout the Delta and Bay. Misreading signals can result in collisions or running aground, which has happened on many occasions. Went through a complete safety check that a boater should do, what is needed such as PFD's for each person on the boat, fire extinguisher, boat registration, and the basic safe boat operation, including the danger of sitting on the edge of the boat while the engine is engaged. Many boaters do not recognize or respond to the blue light of a law enforcement boat, as it is required for them to slow down while the blue light is flashing. They have had many problems with this, including people actually colliding with the patrol boat because they weren't paying attention. Also covered other basic boating laws that are very important for each boater to know.

February 3, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 - 11:00 PM

Youth education and work experience opportunities

Interviewed the Director of the California Conservation Corps (CCC) on the opportunities they provide to youth between the ages of 18-23, providing them with one year of work training to build self-esteem, learn cooperation, basic job skills, all while doing something good and beneficial for the community. The CCC works on many projects throughout California, primarily in disaster clean up for floods or fires, fire fighting assistance to the CDF, levee fortifications, and park clean up, restoration and repair. A lot of at risk youth join, many times to help them get a better direction in life.

Children's science education

Visited the Discovery Museum in Sausalito, interviewing the Director about their newest outdoor exhibit which will focus on ocean and water science with a pirate theme. The Discovery Museum is comprised of many buildings housing different hands-on exhibits geared for younger children to play and interact in, all the while teaching them about basic science and nature.

Science education

Visited the Chabot Space and Science Center in Oakland, where the head astronomer takes a tour through the two large telescope rooms and reviews the operation of each, including how the roof opens for night sky viewing, and what the primary focus of telescope use is there at the Chabot Center, as part of their education in astronomy.

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**February 10, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 – 11:00 PM**

Animal Rescue services

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**February 17, 2007
Northern California Journal
30 – 11:00 PM**

California history education

Visited the California Trail Days that is held each year at Donner Memorial Park. Many people volunteer to participate recreating the pioneer lifestyle of the Donner Party and emigrants of that era. Toured the different areas set up like a pioneer camp, and talked with participants about the different things pioneers did in their daily life. Showed demonstrations on weaving, mountain man living, how women in the 1800's dressed, the different kinds of wagons the emigrants used and toured a pioneer camp general store. Also included comments from descendants of pioneers who told the stories of what their ancestors went through emigrating to California in the mid 1800's.

**February 24, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 – 11:00 PM**

Delta waterways ecology and environmental health

Interviewed representatives of San Francisco Bay & Delta Keepers, an organization that monitors water conditions throughout the Delta for environmental problems. Toured waterway areas and discussed the problems of waste water disposal, industrial toxic waste, and other types of contaminants. They lobby for legislation that will help the Bay & Delta waters stay healthy and enhance the ecology. They also test the water on a regular basis for all different types of chemicals and biological elements that could be hazardous in too high of concentrations. The organization has many volunteers that use their own boats to help "patrol" the Bay & Delta waterways, watching and looking for sources of environmental contamination or problems. Also discussed the continuing problem of levee erosion and what effect that has on the Bay & Delta ecology.

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**March 3, 2007
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Science education

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**March 10, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 – 11:00 PM**

Assistance for the needy

Visited the Alameda County Food Bank where the director discussed the outreach of the Food Bank, that its primary focus is on supplying food to other programs that provide assistance to those in need. They also provide direct assistance with supplies they have on hand. One of the recipients is the Vincent de Paul Center that receives food from the Food Bank in order to provide for a daily hot lunch that is open for anyone. Spoke to the director there about their outreach and the needs of the homeless and underprivileged of the area.

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March 17, 2007
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Energy Conservation

Interviewed Robert Metcalf of Solar Cookers International, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the use of solar power, especially in third world countries where people have very few fuel choices due to poverty or their environment. Solar Cookers is attempting to provide people in these countries, mainly in Africa, solar cookers that are lightweight, portable, and efficiently cook food. They are providing them for free, and donate their time to help people get these cookers and to educate them. Mr. Metcalf is a professor at the University, and has also developed a simple method for water purification that uses solar heat and no chemicals. They are trying to get these to people in other countries that don't have safe drinking water. This organization is hoping that people realize the potential of solar power, not just for third world countries, but that consumption of energy should be reduced anywhere and anyway possible.

Local California History of Pony Express

Toured the original Wells Fargo Pony Express office that is now a museum in Old Sacramento. Curator discusses how the mail was delivered from the east, using young men who would ride straight through, each doing a certain segment, only stopping to change riders and horses, to deliver the mail to the west in a matter of days. This is reenacted each year, from St. Louis, MO to Sacramento, alternating the starting point - this year it starts in Sacramento and go to St. Louis. Also described many articles in the Museum that were used or associated with mail delivery back in the "old west". The Museum especially welcomes school groups, as it is important that kids are educated on this important aspect of California and postal history.

March 24, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 - 11:00 PM

Boating safety

Followed along a Coast Guard Auxiliary boat inspection that they do on request for any private boat. This inspection is quite comprehensive, and covers items that are legally required and necessary for safety. If a boat passes inspection, a Coast Guard Auxiliary representative how important having the correct PFD's is, the primary causes of boating accidents, safety tips, and where boating classes are offered, which the Coast Guard Auxiliary encourages all boaters to take. Covered the opportunities for volunteering with the Coast Guard Auxiliary, and what their primary role is in helping the Coast Guard.

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San Francisco, CA
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January – March 2007

March 31, 2007
Northern California Journal
10:30 – 11:00 PM

Animal Rescue services

Visited Rattie Rat Rescue that works with the Bay Area SPCA in handling unwanted pet rats, as the SPCA is not equipped to take in these kinds of animals. Many times the problem arises of people getting a pet rat from a retail pet store that is already pregnant, as many of these retail stores are not careful to keep the male and females separated, and rats can mate and become pregnant at a very early age. Rattie Rat not only provides a rescue service for adoption placement of these animals, but also educates people on the care of pet rats, and the need to make sure one is getting a pet that is not already pregnant and healthy. Because of the problems encountered in buying pet rats from retail stores, they do not recommend it, but to rather adopt a pet or get one from an established breeder. Also covered the care of pet rats, cages, food, toys, handling, etc., and the misconceptions about having rats as pets, that they have been domesticated for over 100 years and are not at all related to a wild rat. They make good pets for people who don't have a lot of space, for kids to learn about the responsibility of caring for a pet, and for the elderly, as they are inexpensive, easy to care for, and very responsive in playing and human interaction.